

FOR INFORMATION CALL

November 18, 2015

Ald. Terry L. Witkowski (414) 286-2883

County walks back promise to keep sex offenders out of residential facility

Alderman Terry L. Witkowski will host a <u>news conference this afternoon</u> to raise his objections to the planned placement of convicted sex offenders in a new Community Based Residential Facility (CBRF) that could open in the 13th Aldermanic District as early as Friday (November 20).

Alderman Witkowski said the placements are being made despite earlier assurances from Milwaukee County's contractor, Matt Talbot Lodge (Matt Talbot Recovery Services, Inc.) and its owner Carl Rajani. "They said there would be no sex offenders, but now they're going back on those assurances," the alderman said.

As recently as last week, facility owner Rajani met with neighbors and said (and confirmed in an email) that no sex offenders would be housed there, Alderman Witkowski said.

"It's outrageous and unacceptable for any sex offenders to be placed in this facility, located in a quiet and healthy residential neighborhood," Alderman Witkowski said, noting the facility could open Friday if it passes a state inspection scheduled for tomorrow, Thursday, November 19.

Alderman Witkowski said county officials never met with him or the neighbors to discuss the facility. "They (county officials) have been deceitful from the beginning by not telling the public that they would be forcing this facility on the neighborhood," he said. "And now they are making political statements, backtracking, in an attempt to make themselves look good."

Alderman Witkowski and area elected officials will speak during today's news conference at 4:30 p.m. in front of 429 W. Uncas Ave.